



MINNESOTA POLICE AND PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MN Police Association on Rejection of Braveheart Plea Deal

(St. Paul, Minn) Today a Hennepin County District Judge denied a plea deal, arranged by the Hennepin County Attorney's office and Hennepin County Public Defender's office, for accused murderer Husayn Braveheart (State of Minnesota vs. Braveheart, Case file number 27-CR-22-25041). The plea deal had included no prison time and substantial downward departures from sentencing guidelines. [Steven Markey, 39, was killed in Minneapolis when two suspects \(including Braveheart\) tried to carjack him in June, 2019](#). The other defendant has already received 21 years in prison. Braveheart was ultimately determined by the MN Supreme Court that he could be charged as an adult.

Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association General Counsel Imran Ali said, **"In the last two weeks we have had judicial intervention on the radical plea deals offered by Mary Moriarty. This is an important day for the family of Steven Markey. Today, the family is not subjected to the repeated re-victimization. Instead, Judge Burns provided a glimpse of hope for the family. We must return to thoughtful prosecution and stay away from ideological prosecution decisions that make our communities less safe."**

The family of victim Steven Markey has:

- [repeatedly spoken out](#) and requested the [judge reject the plea deal](#) for Braveheart offered by the HCAO because it only included a short probation instead of prison time.
- called on the HCOA, Chief Judge, and more to transfer the prosecution of Braveheart from Hennepin County due to an apparent representation conflict of interest as formerly serving as the county's public defender. On Monday, October 2, the family of Steven Markey met with and sent a letter to Attorney General Ellison outlining their specific concerns. [The letter can be found here.](#)
- called on the case's judge to reject the negotiated plea and rule on the conflict of interest the case, on October 16, 2023. [That letter can be viewed here.](#)

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The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association is the largest organization representing police and peace officers in Minnesota.